

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the Abstract of the Invention as follows:

A rod connector for joining a first rod and a second rod includes bore holes that are offset and/or non-parallel to each other. The rod connector provides an offset or non-parallel connection between the rods that allows for the rods to match the contour of a patient's body without requiring bending of the rods. The rod connector may include a first bore hole for receiving the first spinal rod and a second bore hole for receiving the second spinal rod that is adjustable relative to the first bore hole to adjust the position and/or orientation of the second spinal rod relative to the first spinal rod. The rod connector may comprise a first housing component defining the first bore hole and a second housing component that is movable relative to the first housing component and defining the second bore hole. ~~The second bore hole may be made adjustable using a spherical bushing to allow a spinal rod received in the second bore hole to pivot within the bore hole to adjust the position of the spinal rod relative to the first spinal rod.~~